

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A programmer for a medical device, the programmer comprising:
a first housing member;
a first circuit board within the first housing member;
an internal antenna mounted within the first housing member, wherein the internal antenna defines an aperture;
a second circuit board disposed over the first circuit board within the first housing member;
a battery bay that extends into the programmer in substantial alignment with the aperture, wherein the battery bay extends at least partially into the aperture; and
a second housing member disposed over the second circuit board to substantially enclose the first and second circuit boards, wherein the first housing member includes an area that defines the battery bay adjacent the first circuit board.

Claim 2 (Original): The programmer of claim 1, wherein the battery bay is oriented such that batteries placed in the battery bay present a load to the internal antenna.

Claim 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Original): The programmer of claim 1, wherein the battery bay is sized to accommodate AAA batteries.

Claim 5 (Canceled).

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 1, further comprising an access opening in the first housing member to gain access to the battery bay for placement of batteries within the battery bay.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 1, wherein the internal antenna is displaced from the first circuit board and coupled to the first circuit board via a connector.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 1, wherein the internal antenna is mounted to the first circuit board on a side of the first circuit board opposite the second circuit board, and a display is mounted to the second circuit board on a side of the second circuit board opposite the first circuit board.

Claim 9 (Original): The programmer of claim 8, wherein the first circuit board includes telemetry circuitry and the second circuit board includes control circuitry to control the display and the telemetry circuitry, the programmer further comprising an electrical interface between the first and second circuit boards.

Claim 10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 9, wherein the medical device is an implantable neurostimulator, and wherein the telemetry circuitry transmits signals to the implantable neurostimulator via the antenna and processes signals received from the implantable neurostimulator via the antenna.

Claim 12 (Original): The programmer of claim 9, wherein the display is a liquid crystal display.

Claim 13 (Original): The programmer of claim 1, further comprising an external antenna coupled to the programmer via a cable.

Claim 14 (Canceled).

Claim 15 (Original): The programmer of claim 1, wherein the internal antenna comprises a plastic frame wound with conductive winding.

Claim 16 (Original): The programmer of claim 15, wherein the internal antenna comprises copper braid shielding substantially surrounding the plastic frame and the conductive winding.

Claim 17 (Original): The programmer of claim 1, wherein the internal antenna comprises a loop-like shape that defines the aperture.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 1, wherein the medical device is an implantable neurostimulator.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A programmer for a medical device, the programmer comprising:

a programmer housing;

a circuit board within the programmer housing;

an internal antenna mounted within the programmer housing and connected to the circuit board via a connector, wherein the internal antenna defines an aperture, and wherein the internal antenna is displaced from the circuit board; and

a battery bay formed within the programmer housing, the battery bay being aligned substantially concentrically with the aperture, wherein the battery bay extends at least partially into the aperture.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 19, wherein the battery bay is oriented such that batteries placed in the battery bay present a load to the internal antenna.

Claim 21 (Canceled).

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 19, wherein the battery bay is sized to accommodate AAA batteries.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 19, wherein the circuit board comprises a first circuit board, and wherein the programmer housing comprises:

a first housing member, wherein the first circuit board is within the first housing member, and

a second housing member, the programmer further comprising a second circuit board disposed over the first circuit board within the first housing member, wherein the second housing member is disposed over the second circuit board to substantially enclose the first and second circuit boards, and wherein the first housing member includes a molded area that defines the battery bay adjacent the first circuit board.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 23, further comprising an access opening in the first housing member to gain access to the battery bay for placement of batteries within the battery bay.

Claim 25 (Canceled).

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 23, wherein the internal antenna is mounted to the first circuit board on a side of the first circuit board opposite the second circuit board, and a display is mounted to the second circuit board on a side of the second circuit board opposite the first circuit board.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 26, wherein the first circuit board includes telemetry circuitry and the second circuit board includes control circuitry to control the display and the telemetry circuitry, the programmer further comprising an electrical interface between the first and second circuit boards.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 26, wherein the medical device is an implantable neurostimulator, and wherein the telemetry circuitry transmits signals to the implantable neurostimulator via the antenna and processes signals received from the medical device via the antenna.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 26, wherein the display is a liquid crystal display.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 19, further comprising an external antenna coupled to the programmer via a cable.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 19, wherein the internal antenna comprises a plastic frame wound with conductive winding.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 31, wherein the internal antenna comprises copper braid shielding substantially surrounding the plastic frame and the conductive winding.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 19, wherein the internal antenna comprises a loop-like shape that defines the aperture.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 19, wherein the medical device is an implantable neurostimulator.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 1, wherein the internal antenna is mounted to the first circuit board, and a space between the internal antenna and the first circuit board is substantially filled by the battery bay extending into the antenna aperture.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 19, wherein a space between the antenna and the circuit board is substantially filled by the battery bay extending into the antenna aperture.

Claim 37 (Currently Amended): A programmer for a medical device, the programmer comprising:

a first housing member;

a first circuit board within the first housing member;

an internal antenna that defines an aperture, the internal antenna being mounted to the first circuit board;

a battery bay formed in the first housing member adjacent the first circuit board, wherein the battery bay that extends into the programmer in substantial alignment with the aperture of the internal antenna, and wherein the battery bay is aligned substantially concentrically with the aperture, and extends at least partially into the aperture;

an access opening in the first housing member to gain access to the battery bay for placement of batteries in the battery bay;

a second circuit board disposed over the first circuit board within the first housing member; and

a second housing member disposed over the second circuit board to substantially enclose the first and second circuit boards.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 1, further comprising a telemetry interface coupled to the internal antenna, wherein the telemetry interface drives the internal antenna to transmit instructions to the medical device and processes signals received from the medical device via the internal antenna.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 1, wherein the internal antenna defines a substantially closed loop.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 39, wherein the aperture defined by the internal antenna is substantially central within the closed loop.